

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: UNWFC, EAGR

SUBJECT:REPORT OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL PREPARATORY
MEETING, ROME, MAY 9-13, 1977

REF: (A) ROME 7950 (B) ROME 8096

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE U.S. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT REPORT OF
THE PREPARATORY MEETING, DOCUMENTS WFC/L.19 THROUGH
WFC/L.19/ADD 10:
2. PARAGRAPH 11. THE FIRST SENTENCE IS UNTRUE, AND SHOULD
BE RESTATED AS FOLLOWS: "HOWEVER, THE IMPROVEMENTS IN FOOD
PRODUCTION IN THE PAST TWO YEARS HAVE NOT BEEN EVENLY
DISTRIBUTED AMONG ALL COUNTRIES."
3. PARAGRAPH 13. THE STATEMENT IS BASED ON AN INACCURATE
PREMISE; IT SHOULD BE DELETED OR REVISED IN THE FOLLOWING
MANNER: "THE COUNCIL MAY WISH TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER THE
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TENDENCY FOR SOME FOOD EXPORTING COUNTRIES TO RESTRICT FOOD
PRODUCTION BECAUSE OF LOW MARKET PRICES."

4. PARAGRAPH 17. THE WORD "WELL" SHOULD BE DELETED FROM
THE FIRST SENTENCE, SINCE THERE IS SOME AMBIGUITY OVER THE
AMOUNTS ACTUALLY SHIPPED AND BECAUSE THERE ARE DIFFERENCES

OF OPINION ABOUT WHETHER THE AMOUNTS SHIPPED REPRESENT A SUBSTANTIAL SHORTFALL FROM THE TARGET. ALSO, THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE PARAGRAPH SHOULD BEGIN WITH THE PHRASE "SOME DELEGATES STATED THAT ...".

5. PARAGRAPH 21. THE FIRST PART OF THE FIRST SENTENCE SHOULD BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "VARIOUS DELEGATIONS SUGGESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT...".

6. PARAGRAPH 23. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE TWO AMOUNTS NOTED IN THIRD SENTENCE OF THIS PARAGRAPH, I.E. 4 BILLION DOLLARS AND 2.4 BILLION DOLLARS, ARE REFERRING TO CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE IN BOTH CASES, TO AMOUNTS PROVIDED TO FOOD PRIORITY COUNTRIES IN BOTH CASES, OR TO SOMETHING

DIFFERENT IN EACH CASE. THE SENTENCE SHOULD BE CLARIFIED.

7. PARAGRAPH 31. THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "THE UNITED STATES INDICATED THAT IT HAD TAKEN MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE THE CREATION OF AN ON-FARM DOMESTIC GRAIN RESERVE OF 300 MILLION BUSHELS. THESE MEASURES, COMBINED WITH FOOD AID, WILL HELP MEET THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF POOR COUNTRIES."

8. PARAGRAPH 55. THE FIRST SENTENCE SHOULD BEGIN WITH THE PHRASE "THE DOCUMENT NOTED THAT ...".

9. PARAGRAPH 56. TO CONFORM MORE NEARLY TO ACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE SECOND SENTENCE SHOULD BE REVISED AS UNCLASSIFIED

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FOLLOWS: "PESTICIDES, FOR WHICH ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAD BEEN CALLED FOR AT MANY INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS INCLUDING THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, WERE STILL BEING USED IN VERY LIMITED QUANTITIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES."

10. PARAGRAPH 87. THE US STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT THE PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE DELETED. IF IT IS NOT, THEN THE U.S. INSISTS ON THE INCLUSION OF A BALANCING SENTENCE ALONG THE LINES OF THE FOLLOWING: "OTHER DELEGATIONS FELT SUCH AN ANALYSIS WOULD BE BASED ON PREJUDICIAL ASSUMPTIONS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE IMPOSITION BY GOVERNMENTS OF ARBITRARY SYSTEMS THAT THWART THE HUMAN DESIRE FOR SELF-IMPROVEMENT."

11. PARAGRAPH 99. THE THIRD SENTENCE OF THE PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: THE DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES INDICATED THAT IT IS SEEKING

TO AMEND THE APPROPRIATE PROVISIONS OF LAW SO AS TO BE ABLE TO ASSURE CONTINUITY OF SUPPLY AND TO IMPROVE THE GOVERNMENTS ABILITY TO COOPERATE WITH RECIPIENT NATIONS TO USE FOOD AID FOR DEVELOPMENTAL PURPOSES. FOR THOSE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR WHOM THE PRESENT DEGREE OF CONCESSIONALITY REPRESENTS AN UNDUE BURDEN, THE UNITED STATES IS CONSIDERING MEANS TO PROVIDE ALL FOOD AID ON A GRANT BASIS."

12. PARAGRAPH 111. THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WISHED TO GO ON RECORD AS ASSOCIATING ITSELF GENERALLY WITH THIS POSITION, AS THE DELEGATION COULD NOT LEGALLY COMMIT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO COMPLETION OF A GRAINS AGREEMENT BY A SPECIFIED DATE OR TO INCLUSION OF A PARTICULAR AMOUNT OF FOOD AID UNDER A NEW FOOD AID CONVENTION, ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES HAS SYMPATHY FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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THE BROADLY EXPRESSED SENTIMENTS OF THIS PARAGRAPH."

13. PARAGRAPH 113. THE SENSE OF THE MEETING, AS THE US UNDERSTANDS IT, WOULD BE MORE ACCURATELY CONVEYED IF THE THIRD SENTENCE OF THIS PARAGRAPH WERE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "ALTHOUGH MOST DELEGATIONS RECOGNIZED THE NECESSITY OF PROVIDING A FOCUS FOR MINISTERIAL DELIBERATIONS, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THE TEXT AS WRITTEN WOULD NEED SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT BEFORE SERVING AS A BASIS FOR MAKING THE ERADICATION OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION THE BASIC AND STRATEGIC THEME OF THE MANILA MEETING, AS THE MEETING HAD INTENDED."

14. PARAGRAPH 114. THE FINAL PART OF THE THIRD SENTENCE SHOULD BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "AND TO INCREASE ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT EFFORT IN CONCERT WITH THAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY." CHRISTOPHER

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